

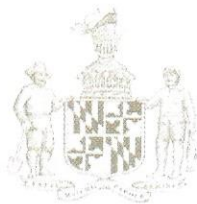
WILLIAM WIVELL
Legislative District 2A
Washington County

Environment and Transportation
Committee

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Local Government and
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HB0813

Possession of Medical Cannabis - Local Correctional Facilities and Home Detention Program - Prohibition

HB813 conforms the possession of marijuana or cannabis in a local correctional facility or while on home detention with the practice adopted in our State facilities.

I encourage you to read the testimony from William Tilburg, the Executive Director of the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission. Mr. Tilburg states that, of the 33 States that have legalized the use of medical cannabis, none of them allow patients to use medical cannabis while incarcerated. He further states that, for a pharmaceutical drug to be dispensed in a correctional facility, it must be placed on the facility's drug formulary. Under current federal law, medical cannabis is considered contraband. He believes that "there is merit to clarifying the law in this area and applying it Statewide to avoid confusion as well as potential litigation".

Because Maryland has adopted medical marijuana contrary to federal law, it is believed that HB0813 is needed to avoid any confusion as to its presence, or the lack thereof, within the confines of our local correctional facilities.

I ask for a favorable report. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wivell", written over a large, stylized blue circular mark.

William J. Wivell